

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:	Examiner: Z. Lucas
CHIEN et al.	Group Art Unit: 1648
Serial No.: 10/643,853	Confirmation No.: 6313
Filing Date: August 19, 2003	
Title: HCV ANTIGEN: ANTIBODY COMBINATION ASSAY	

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.116

Box AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This paper is responsive to the Office Action dated November 27, 2006, with a shortened statutory period of three months for response. Accordingly, an extension of time in which to respond is requested and the requisite fee accompanies this response.

Reconsideration of the above-referenced patent application is requested in view of the following amendments and remarks.

A listing of claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 4 of this paper.